

October 18, 2018
Charleston, SC

A meeting of Charleston County Council's Finance Committee was held on October 18, 2018, in the Beverly T. Craven Council Chambers, Second Floor of the Lonnie Hamilton, III Public Services Building, located at 4045 Bridge View Drive, North Charleston, South Carolina.

The following committee members were present: A. Victor Rawl, Chairman, who presided, Anna Johnson, Brantley Moody, Teddie Pryor, Joe Qualey, Herb Sass, and Dickie Schweers. Messrs. Darby and Summey were absent.

Deputy County Administrator Walter Smalls and County Attorney Joe Dawson were also present.

Mr. Pryor moved approval of the Finance Committee Minutes of October 2, 2018 and October 4, 2018, seconded by Mr. Moody, and carried.

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was the Consent Agenda. Mr. Pryor moved approval of the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mr. Moody, and carried.

Consent Agenda items are as follows:

**Sobering
Services Peer
Support
Specialist

Request to
Approve**

ITEM A

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Director of DAODAS Chanda Brown provided a report regarding the need to approve one (1) grant funded FTE for a Sobering Services Peer Support Specialist. It was stated that on July 24, 2018 through Council Action 18-208, the Charleston Center was granted permission by County Council to accept a grant from the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) in the amount of \$50,000 to provide a Peer Support Specialist (PSS) for Sobering Services. With CHA-STR-19 Revision I, Charleston Center has been provided an additional \$50,000 for a second full-time PSS position.

The PSS will support patients by developing recovery plans based on wants, needs, and interests of the patient; identify mechanisms to increase the engagement and support of family members; provide recovery check-ups or other forms of continuing support until patient is connected to a substance use disorder provider.

Charleston Center requests a new grant-funded FTE for this position.

The grant period is from May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019, and the position will end once the grant ends unless alternative funding is obtained.

As with the original grant funds received, the budget management and monthly reporting are the responsibility of the Charleston Center.

Department Head recommended that Council approve the request for one (1) new grant-funded FTE to hire a Peer Support Specialist (PSS) for Sobering Services with the understanding that:

- At the conclusion of the grant period, the County is under no obligation to retain this position.
- The grant period is from May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019.
- Budget management and monthly reporting are the responsibility of the Charleston Center.

**Berkeley
County
Government
Funding

Request to
Approve**

ITEM B

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Ninth Circuit Public Defender Ashley Pennington provided a report regarding the need to approve one (1) FTE with Berkeley County Funding. It was stated that The Berkeley County Government has approved funding to start in October 2018 for a new attorney position at the Public Defender's Office in Berkeley County. Charleston County Council approval is required since Charleston County is the administrative county for the Ninth Circuit.

The Public Defender plans to hire one new attorney for the Berkeley County office.

The Administrator and the Public Defender recommended that Council approve one (1) Full Time Employee for the Public Defender to hire one new attorney for the Berkeley office with the understanding that funds are available from the recurring Berkeley County Government funds in October 2018.

**Sheriff's Office
Fallen Officer
Memorial
Project

Award of
Contract**

ITEM C

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Director of Contracts and Procurement Barrett Tolbert provided a report regarding the need to award a contract for the Sheriff's Office Fallen Officer Memorial Project. It was stated that the Charleston County Facilities Department's Sheriff's Office Fallen Officer Memorial project consists of demolition (civil, landscaping and electrical), partial demolition of portland cement stucco/concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls, new construction (civil drainage improvements, landscaping planting, paving, plantation mix, and site lighting) new fencing and gates, gate hardware, and electrical. The work also includes removal, relocation, and hook-up of site lighting. The work will be performed in conjunction with the work on a separate contract, which includes setting new black granite and cast bronze monuments with internal lighting.

Bids were received in accordance with the terms and conditions of Invitation for Bid No. 5300-19L. The mandatory Small Business Enterprise (SBE) requirement for this solicitation is 12.2% and the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal is 25%.

Bidder	Total Bid Price	SBE Percentage	DBE Percentage
IPW Construction Group, LLC North Charleston, South Carolina 29418 Principal: Cyrus D. Sinor	\$200,586.00	100%	100%
Huss, Inc. Charleston, South Carolina 29407 Principal: Richard Huss	\$235,650.00	12.34%	12.34%

Infinger Construction Group North Charleston, South Carolina 29418 Principal: Emory J. Infinger, Jr.	\$290,700.00	100%	100%
AOS Specialty Contractors Lexington, South Carolina 29073 Principal: Jane Plante	\$370,929.00	27.9%	100%

Department Head recommended that Council authorize award of contract for the Sheriff's Office Fallen Officer Memorial project to IPW Construction Group, LLC, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, in the amount of \$200,586.00 with the understanding that funds are available in the Facilities Management Department budget.

Mr. Sass asked why the amount was so high for the construction. Mr. Smalls stated that this price included the prep work that needed to be done to clear the area between the two buildings where the memorial is being constructed which requires significant concrete, landscaping, and tree work as well as the construction of the memorial.

Provide On-Call Right-of-Way Service

ITEM D

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Director of Contracts and Procurement Barrett Tolbert provided a report regarding the need to award a contract for On-Call Right-of-Way Services. It was stated that qualifications were received in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) No. 5302-19C from firms licensed in the State of South Carolina to provide On Call Right-of-Way services for the purpose of acquiring right-of-way on various projects throughout the County.

Award of Contract

The following firms submitted qualification:

- The Bernard Johnson Group, Inc.
- Michael Baker International
- Primacq Group
- THC, Inc.

Per the terms of the RFQ, it is the intent of the County to identify three (3) firms which will be considered for award for each project during the course of the year. The County will always negotiate with the firm identified as the most qualified first. If a fair and reasonable cost and time frame can be successfully negotiated, that firm will be awarded the contract. If however, successful negotiations with this firm are not concluded, the County will attempt to negotiate with the firm identified as the second most qualified. Failure to reach successful negotiations with this firm will result in the County attempting to conduct negotiations with the firm identified as being the third most qualified. If negotiations fail with these three firms, a solicitation for the specific project will be opened for all vendors to participate in the RFQ process.

An evaluation committee reviewed the qualifications for compliance with the RFQ requirements and determined the following three firms, ranking in order, to be the most qualified in meeting the County's needs, and recommends awarding contracts.

1. Michael Baker International
2. THC, Inc.
3. Primacq Group

Department Head recommended that Council authorize award of contracts for On Call Right-of-Way services for various projects throughout the County with the understanding that funds are available in Transportation Sales Tax, in order of most qualified, to the following firms:

1. Michael Baker International
2. THC, Inc.
3. Primacq Group

The previous item was the last item on the Consent Agenda.

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was the Right-of-Way Requests across Greenbelt Properties.

**Right-of-Way
Requests
across
Greenbelt
Properties

Request to
Approve**

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Greenbelts Program Director Cathy Ruff provided a report regarding requests for rights-of-way across Greenbelt properties. It was stated that in accordance with Charleston County Ordinance #1424, Section 5, no interest in land acquired by an Eligible Greenbelt Fund Recipient with Greenbelt Funds may be extinguished, sold, transferred, assigned, alienated, or converted to a purpose or use other than that set forth in the grant award, without securing:

- (1) two-thirds vote of the board, following a finding of fact that the land no longer exhibits the characteristic that qualified it for acquisition with funds from the Greenbelt Fund; and
- (2) majority vote of the Charleston County Council.

If any interests in lands that have been acquired by an Eligible Greenbelt Fund Recipient with Greenbelt Funds are extinguished, sold, transferred, assigned, alienated, or converted pursuant to the above subsection, the Eligible Greenbelt Fund Recipient extinguishing, selling, transferring, assigning, alienating, or converting the interests in land shall replace them with interests in land of substantially equal current fair market value, with any deficit being made up by contribution (cash or in-kind at the discretion of the board) to the Greenbelt Fund. The replacement land must also exhibit characteristics that meet the criteria of this ordinance. The board must verify that suitable replacement interests in lands have been identified and will be obtained before authorizing that any interest in land purchased with monies from the Greenbelt Fund be extinguished, sold, transferred, assigned, alienated, or converted.

The Greenbelt Advisory Board has received the following two requests from the City of North Charleston to grant right-of-way access to private developers across existing Greenbelt properties.

1. **City of North Charleston’s Bark Park (Mixson Street)** – This quarter-acre property located on Mixson Street behind the CVS and next to the existing ball fields, was purchased by the city in 2010. It has been developed into a dog park. (map attached)

TRC Mixson Commons, LLC is requesting a 7’ storm water drainage easement in order to develop the property adjacent to the Bark Park. The easement will be underneath the

current sidewalk that is in disrepair and will not affect the use of the Greenbelt property as a dog park. The developer has offered to repair the sidewalk as compensation for the right-of-way, which will enhance access to the park.

There is a tree within the easement area, so the Greenbelt Advisory Board approved this project with the condition that the City's arborist be involved in the engineering of the sidewalk replacement and the trimming of the root system in order to protect the tree. The motion passed with the necessary two-thirds vote (9 members). Two members voted against the motion and one member abstained. The following members voted in favor: Chair Beezer Molten, Vice Chair Elizabeth Hagood, Christiane Farrell, Nora Kravec, Jason Kronsberg, Jerry Lahm, Teresa Tidestrom, Francis Waite and Rita Worthy. The following members voted against the motion: Warwick Jones and Taylor Skardon. Ray Anderson abstained.

- 2. City of North Charleston's Tract B (S. Rhett Avenue)** – The 10.5 acre Tract B parcel was purchased by the city in 2008 to be added with other properties along Noisette Creek to create a linear park. (map attached)

PC Land Members, LLC is requesting to acquire 10,125 square feet of Tract B for ingress/egress in order to develop the adjacent property that is land-locked. The area of the proposed ingress/egress consists of highland, riparian land, and wetlands. The developer is offering to swap 10,200 square feet of highland that can be added to the size of Tract B. This land swap will allow of the Greenbelt property to be used for its original purpose of a linear park along Noisette Creek.

The motion passed with all members voting in favor, with the exception of Ray Anderson who abstained.

Department Head recommended that Council approve the City of North Charleston's right-of-way requests, outlined below, as recommended by the Greenbelt Advisory Board.

- 1. City of North Charleston's Bark Park (Mixson Street)** – Approve the city's request to convey a 7' storm water drainage easement on the Bark Park (Mixson Street) Greenbelt property to TRC Mixson Commons, LLC in order to develop the adjacent property. As compensation for the easement, Mixson Commons, LLC will repair/replace the sidewalk to enhance access to the Bark Park. The GAB's approval is also with the condition that the City's arborist be involved in the engineering of the sidewalk replacement, including the trimming and care of the root system of the tree located within the easement area.
- 2. City of North Charleston's Tract B (S. Rhett Avenue)** – Approve the city's request to convey a 10,125 sq. ft. portion of the Tract B Greenbelt parcel to PC Land Members, LLC in order to have ingress/egress to the adjacent property for development. As compensation 10,200 sq. ft. of land will be added to the Tract B property and put under the property's Greenbelt deed restrictions.

Mr. Pryor moved for approval of the Department Head recommendations, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried.

The Chairman stated that the next item on the agenda was extending transfer station and disposal contracts.

**Extend
Transfer
Station &
Disposal
Contract

Request to
Approve**

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Interim Director of Environmental Management Tonya Lott provided a report regarding the need to approve the extension of the existing transfer station and landfill agreements. It was stated that in 2009, County Council adopted a Nine Point Strategy to achieve a 40% recycling goal. One of the points was to negotiate contracts for transfer and waste disposal of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) as a result of the closure of the waste to energy incinerator. Approximately two thirds of the County's MSW is transferred and disposed of in this manner. In 2009, the County paid approximately \$36 per ton for MSW disposed through the transfer stations.

The County entered into contracts with Republic Services of South Carolina, LLC (Republic) and Carolina Processing and Recycling, LLC (Carolina Waste). The County entered into a contract with Waste Management of South Carolina (Waste Management) which owns and operates the Oakridge Landfill in Dorchester County. This landfill recently obtained a new permit allowing for an additional twenty years of waste disposal capacity.

Currently, the County pays \$20.20 per ton for MSW disposed at the Waste Management Landfill. In FY 2018, approximately 130,636 tons were transferred through Carolina Waste at \$19.30 per ton. Another 54,454 tons was transferred through Republic at \$18.09 ton.

The Environmental Management Department is requesting Council's approval to amend and extend the agreements with Carolina Waste, Republic Services and Waste Management for waste transfer and disposal for one year. The current agreements will expire on November 30, 2018.

This extension will enable staff to implement changes in a longer-term contract after consultation with County Council. These extensions are under the same terms and conditions as previously approved by the County Council. Upon approval, the extension will be in effect until November 30, 2019.

Department Head recommended that Council authorize the extension of the transfer station contracts with Republic Services of South Carolina, LLC, and Carolina Processing and Recycling, LLC for a period of one year until November 30, 2019 and authorize the extension of the disposal contract with Waste Management of South Carolina, Inc., for a period of one year until November 30, 2019 with the understanding that funds are available in the Environmental Management Budget.

Ms. Johnson moved for Department Head recommendation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pryor.

Mr. Schweers asked if this was still the most economical option. The Chairman stated this was an extension of an existing contract for one year and in order to change the course moving forward, it would have to be rebid and scrutinized again. Mr. Schweers stated he understood that this was a one-year extension, but he recalled there was a lot of scrutiny about this contract when it was first entered into and he would like to know if staff still considers this the best option. Mr. Pryor stated that this is a contract for municipalities to take trash to transfer stations instead of all the way out to the Bees

Ferry Landfill and is not about recycling. Mr. Schweers stated again that he understands the contract. Mr. Pryor stated that there are only two local companies that do this type of work so these would be the only two that could competitively bid. Mr. Schweers stated he remembers having some discussions previously about the location of the transfer stations and he wanted to ensure this process was still staff's recommendation. He asked if Mr. Dawson was involved in this process. The Chairman stated that since this does not involve the MRF, it was his understanding that Mr. Dawson was not involved with this. Mr. Pryor asked if Mr. Dawson had reviewed the contracts. Mr. Dawson confirmed that he had and that this was an extension of a contract that has been in place for 9 years. He added that he had discussed strategic planning for this department with Environmental Management Committee Chairman Moody and it was his understanding that the Environmental Management Committee would be considering the right path forward at an upcoming meeting and that this is why the contract is only being extending for one year in order to give the committee sufficient time to consider options. Mr. Moody stated that was correct.

The Chairman called for a vote and the motion carried.

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was an extension of the lease for a portion of the Ravenel Service Center to the BCD Council of Governments.

**Lease
Amendment for
Ravenel
Service Center**

**Request to
Approve**

County Administrator Jennifer Miller and Director of Facilities Timothy Przybylowski provided a report regarding a request to renew the lease with the BCD Council of Governments at the Ravenel Service Center. It was stated that the County has leased a portion of the Ravenel Service Center, located at 5962 Highway 165 in Ravenel, to the Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) since January 2012, for the BCD Career Center and related services. The BCDCOG and County are requesting to renew the lease for a 5-year term, beginning on November 1, 2018. The rental rate is \$1 per year. Per Section 23 of the lease, either party may terminate the lease with 60 days written notice. It was noted that a public hearing on this matter was scheduled for October 23, 2018.

Department Head recommended that Council, following a public hearing on the matter and upon review of the documents by the Legal department, authorize the Chairman of Council to execute a Lease Amendment to extend the BCDCOG lease for five years and add one five-year option and authorize the County administrator to approve the exercise of the future option.

Ms. Johnson moved for Department Head recommendation, seconded by Mr. Pryor, and carried.

**Lowcountry
Rapid Transit
Project
Development**

**Request to
Approve**

The Chairman stated the next item on the agenda was the Lowcountry Rapid Transit Project Development.

County Administrator Jennifer Miller, Transportation Development Director Steve Thigpen, and Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments Executive Director Ron Mitchum provided a report regarding a request to appropriate funding to begin the NEPA process for the Lowcountry Rapid Transit Project. It was stated that Berkeley Charleston Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG) is managing

Phase 1 of the Lowcountry Rapid Transit (LCRT) Project, which includes conceptual engineering for a proposed Bus Rapid Transit line that would operate along US 78 and Highway 52 from Summerville to downtown Charleston. BCDCOG has selected an engineering consultant (HDR Inc.) and developed a contract to accomplish the preliminary engineering and conduct the NEPA process. The schedule to complete the scope of work is being expedited to be consistent with the timeline of the Federal funding agencies' program. To meet this timeline, additional funding in the amount of \$4.7 million is needed in the current fiscal year. This funding is available from future years from the Transit portion of 2nd Transportation Sales Tax.

Additionally, the limits of the LCRT project encompass the limits of the County's US 78 widening project. Traffic data collection and analysis is needed for both projects. In an effort to reduce cost by eliminating the duplication of effort for this analysis, Charleston County plans to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with BCDCOG. The scope of work for the LCRT project will be expanded to include developing conceptual designs of potential improvements such as the addition of general purpose lanes and intersection improvements, and analyzing the impacts these improvements have on the general purpose travel lanes within the limits of the County's project from the County line to US 52. This work will be accomplished by utilizing the data already collected in other tasks as part of the Lowcountry Rapid Transit Project. The fee estimate for the additional work associated for the County's portion of the project is not to exceed \$294,743.64 per the agreement.

Department Head recommended that Council appropriate \$4.7 million from the Transit portion of the 2nd Transportation Sales Tax for the preliminary engineering/NEPA process for the Lowcountry Rapid Transit project.

Mr. Pryor moved for Department Head recommendation, seconded by Ms. Johnson, and carried.

**Sales Tax
Update on
Mass Transit**

CARTA and Tri-County Link Executive Director Ron Mitchum presented an update to the Committee on Mass Transit related to the Transportation Sales Tax. He stated not much of significance has changed since the last update.

Regarding System Operation, the current on-time performance was averaging 90%. The Hospitality on Peninsula (HOP) service began in April 2018 and has provided over 25,000 rides to date. The route is in service from 6 AM – 3 AM and costs \$5/day to park in the Park and Ride lot on Morrison Drive. He added that CARTA provided additional services during Hurricane Florence and Hurricane Michael. There were no significant problems with that service.

Mr. Schweers stated he liked the idea of CARTA providing rides for citizens to go to shelters, but asked how citizens knew it was offered. Mr. Mitchum stated there are numbered signs at Evacuation Pick-Up Points where citizens wait for a bus to come by to pick them up and take them to an evacuation shelter. He stated he thought it worked out well. Mr. Schweers asked if the buses were well utilized. Mr. Mitchum stated that

they were and that the only real issue they had was not having an established relationship with One Eighty Place to drop homeless individuals off. They were picked up at One Eighty Place before the storm and when they were dropped back off, the individuals were told the shelter was full. Because of that, the County opened the Pre-Release Shelter as a solution, but a meeting was scheduled with One Eighty Place to discuss the matter further so it is not a problem in the future.

Mr. Mitchum continued his presentation. He stated the average monthly ridership for Tel-A-Ride is 6,124, the on-time performance is 90%, and they are continuing to investigate options to reduce the per trip cost.

Regarding CARTA Planning and System Performance, Mr. Mitchum stated that there are no plans for significant expansion of service for the next 12 months. The plan is to focus on current services and the new performance measures have been established. CARTA is in the process of selecting an ITS vendor, which will be a new to CARTA. It will aid the driver in maintaining schedule with a tracker and allow new amenities on the bus such as stop announcements. The Bus Tracker App continues to be a successful tool. CARTA just finished the Regional Transit Framework Plan for CHATS and the Regional Park and Ride Study. There have been discussions about additional hospitality services/rides with people from Isle of Palms, Folly Beach, Mount Pleasant, and Kiawah/Seabrook.

Mr. Moody stated the last time Mr. Mitchum presented, he stated CARTA had service in the past to Kiawah/Seabrook and Folly and it did not work. Mr. Moody asked what was different now. Mr. Mitchum stated that previously they geared the service towards beachgoers, this time the service will be geared towards the hospitality industry, and if someone wants a ride to the beach during the time that route is running that would be acceptable.

Mr. Mitchum continued his presentation. He stated they are developing a Mount Pleasant service specific plan which may be more like a demand-response service than a specific route. He added that they continue to work on bench and shelter upgrades and replacements based on a data-driven prioritization list, a Park and Ride lot in North Charleston, route performance measures, and beginning the Lowcountry Rapid Transit (BRT).

Regarding CARTA Fleet and Facilities, 19 commuter buses are still scheduled to be delivered early 2019. In addition, three neighborhood shuttles and three specialty paratransit vehicles that can hold up to four wheelchairs were purchased with discretionary grant funds. CARTA is in the process of replacing fixed route buses in the next six months with battery/electric vehicles. He added that a new bus wash, which was also purchased with discretionary grant funds, is now in operation.

Regarding CARTA Safety and Security, CARTA is looking at all bus stops for suitability and safety. Lighting, locations, and many other upgrades are being installed as appropriate. The intermodal center is scheduled to be completed in February 2019.

Ms. Johnson asked how the schedule change on James Island from 90 minutes to 60 minutes is working. Mr. Mitchum stated it has only been implemented for a short time and the hurricanes made it harder to determine month to month, but as far as he could tell, it seemed to be going well. He added that he should have a better idea of how the route is working at his next update.

The Chairman stated the Maybank Highway Project was removed from the agenda, and there was no longer a need for executive session.

The Chairman asked everyone to keep Ms. Miller's father and family in his or her thoughts and prayers.

There being no further business to come before the Body, the Chairman declared the meeting to be adjourned.

Kristen L. Salisbury
Clerk of Council